14th December 1954]

Construction of an anicut for Thirur-Ponnani river, South Malabar.

* 322 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to Starred Question No. 557 on 7th May 1954, what action the Government have taken regarding the construction of an anicut for Thirur-Ponnani river, South Malabar, and a bund for Konolithodu at Koottai?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Particulars called for from the Chief Engineer are awaited."

Supply in midday meals in elementary schools in Ponneri taluk.

* 323 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of schools in Ponneri taluk run by the Harijan Welfare Department, the District Board and private parties ; and

(*b*) the total number of schools and the number of students given midday meals in that taluk in the year 1952?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers only to the number of elementary schools in Ponneri taluk. The number of such schools in Ponneri taluk run by the Harijan Welfare Department, District Board and private parties is, as follows :—

Harijan Welfare Department	12
District Board	75
Private parties	29

" (*b*) Midday meals were supplied in all the 12 schools under the control of Harijan Welfare Department. The total number of pupils supplied with midday meals during 1952–53 was 11,584.

In this connexion, I request the hon. Member that, instead of putting separate questions in respect of each taluk on different occasions, if he puts a question concerning more than one taluk at a time, it would be convenient for the Government to prepare answers and save a lot of time and trouble to the Government."

Laboratory for conducting research work in Ayurvedic medicines in Malabar.

* 324 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government propose to start a laboratory in Malabar for conducting research work in Ayurvedic medicines?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" No, Sir."